



The Parish and Ward Church of
St Botolph-without-Bishopsgate
in the City of London
EC2M 3TL



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

**Friday 15 December
2023 at 5.30 pm**

Fr David Armstrong, Rector

Iestyn Evans, Director of Music

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St Botolph-without-Bishopsgate - a place of calm, sanctuary and God's love in the City

St Botolph's Advent & Christmas Charities

Alms given and collections taken during Advent and at Carol Services are divided between our chosen charities, which this year reflect two issues particularly relevant to our Advent theme of 'The Outcast'.



PROVIDENCE ROW

HELPING HOMELESS AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE SINCE 1860

Providence Row has been working since 1860 with all sectors of the homeless population in Tower Hamlets and the City of London, including those turned away from other projects due to their special needs. The charity works with more than 1800 homeless and vulnerably housed people a year, offering an integrated service of crisis support, advice, recovery, and learning and training programmes. The Dellow Day Centre provides essential services including food, showers and laundry facilities, which help to restore health and dignity, and the charity's wide range of advice support and outreach services also help to tackle the more complex issues which may be the root cause of a person's homelessness.

ABCD Bethlehem is a UK charity which has worked for nearly 40 years in partnership with organisations supporting disabled children in hospitals and refugee camps in the West Bank. The children and their families cared for by ABCD's partners were already in great need of help, but the devastating conflict in Gaza has had a further huge impact on their lives. With Palestinian areas of the West Bank in lockdown and suffering nightly raids, the psychological damage to children and young adults is incalculable. Your donations will go towards ABCD's crisis appeal to meet the needs of hundreds of vulnerable children in refugee camp centres by providing additional trauma therapy, support for families with food parcels and medication, and urgent repairs to centres damaged in the conflict.



Please give as generously as you are able at this time:

- **Cash donations** may be placed in the alms boxes, or handed to a member of staff at any time. If you are a UK taxpayer please complete a Gift Aid envelope so we can claim back a further 25% from HMRC.
- **Card/contactless donations** can be made at any time via the devices at the front or back of church, or this dedicated QR code, and can be Gift Aided.
- **Credit card donations** can be made via the link on our website, and can be Gift Aided.

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Welcome to St Botolph's - whether you are with us in church or following the livestream - for this evening service of Carols by Candlelight, which is led by the Rector, Fr David Armstrong.

Please stand at the ringing of the bell

CAROL

Solo

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed.
Mary was that Mother mild
Jesus Christ her little Child.

Choir only

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

All

And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.
Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Please sit

WELCOME AND BIDDING PRAYER

concluding with the Lord's Prayer said by all:

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

CHOIR: Ding dong! merrily on high

Ding dong! merrily on high	E'en so here below, below,
In heav'n the bells are ringing:	Let steeple bells be swungen,
Ding dong! verily the sky	And 'Io, io, io!'
Is riv'n with angel singing.	By priest and people sungen.
<i>Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!</i>	<i>Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!</i>

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

G R Woodward

16th French tune, harm. Charles Wood

FIRST LESSON: The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

CHOIR: Myn lyking

I saw a fair mayden sytten and sing,
She lulled a lyttel childe, a sweete Lording.
Lullay, myn lyking, my dere sonne, my sweeting,
Lullay, my dere herte, mine own dere derling.

That same Lord is he that made alle thing,
Of alle lordis he is Lord, of alle kynges King:
Lullay, myn lyking...

There was mickle melody at that chylde's birth,
All that were in heavenly bliss, they made mickle mirth:
Lullay, myn lyking...

Angels bright sang their song to that chylde:
Blyssed be thou, and so be she, so meek and so mild:
Lullay, myn lyking...

Anon, 15th century

Richard Terry

SECOND LESSON: St Luke tells of the Birth of Jesus

Please stand

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men
From heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long:
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong:
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet-bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years,
Comes round the age of gold:
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Please sit

THIRD LESSON: The shepherds go to the manger

CHOIR: Tu scendi dalle stelle

Tu scendi dalle stelle,
O Re del Cielo,
E vieni in una grotta,
Al freddo al gelo.
O Bambino mio divino
Io ti vedo qui a tremar,
O Dio beato
Ahi, quanto ti costò
l'avermi amato!
A te, che sei del mondo
Il Creatore,
Mancano panni e fuoco;
O mio Signore!
Caro eletto Pargoletto,
Quanto questa povertà
Più m'innamora!
Giacché ti fece amor
Povero ancora!

*From starry skies descending,
Thou comest, glorious King,
A manger low thy bed,
In winter's icy sting;
O my dearest Child most holy,
Shuddering, trembling in the cold!
Great God, thou lovest me!
What suffering thou didst bear,
That I near thee might be!
Thou art the world's Creator,
God's own and true Word,
Yet here no robe, no fire
For thee, Divine Lord.
Dearest, fairest, sweetest Infant,
Dire this state of poverty.
The more I care for thee,
Since thou, O Love Divine,
Will'st now so poor to be.*

Words and music: St Alphonsus Maria de Liguori, arr. Graham Ross

Please stand

FOURTH LESSON: St John unfolds the Mystery of the Incarnation

Please sit

CHOIR: O magnum mysterium

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum iacentem in præsepio.
O beata Virgo cuius viscera meruerunt portare
Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

*O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,
that beasts should behold the new-born Lord lying in their stall!
O blessed Virgin, whose womb was counted worthy to bear
the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluya.*

Matins Responsory on Christmas Day

Tomás Luis de Victoria c1548–1611

Please kneel or sit

PRAYERS

Please stand

*During the singing of the next Carol a collection will be taken up for
St Botolph's Advent & Christmas Charities, Providence Row and
ABCD Bethlehem (more information on inside front cover).*

CAROL

A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure!

The Virgin bears the Infant
With virgin-honour pure.

Repeat the hymn again!

*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'*

The Word becomes incarnate
And yet remains on high!

And Cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky.

Repeat the hymn again!

*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'*

While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
Ye oceans clap your hands.

Repeat the hymn again!

*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'*

Since all he comes to ransom,
By all be he adored,

The Infant born in Bethl'em,
The Saviour and the Lord.

Repeat the hymn again!

*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'*

And idol forms shall perish,
And error shall decay,

And Christ shall wield his sceptre,
Our Lord and God for ay.

Repeat the hymn again!..

*'To God on high be glory,
And peace on earth to men!'*

Please remain standing

BLESSING

CAROL

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Please remain standing as the priest and choir depart

ORGAN MUSIC: Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich, BWV 605
—Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Please join us for refreshments after the service

JOIN US FOR MORE SERVICES and EVENTS AT ST BOTOLPH'S THIS CHRISTMASTIDE - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Family Christmas Mass and Blessing of the Crib
Friday 22 December at 11.00 am *with St Botolph's Choir*
—bring your children and grandchildren

For the first time at St Botolph's... a Festive Entertainment!
Acclaimed actor Bruce Morrison presents 'A Christmas Carol'
Thursday 21 and Friday 22 December at 5.30 pm

More information and tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/charles-dickens-a-christmas-carol-tickets-748331889827>

The latest information about future services and events can always be found on our website at www.botolph.org.uk. You will also find on the website a link to sign up for our monthly email newsletter

***A very happy Christmas and a blessed New Year
to you all from the clergy, congregation and staff
of St Botolph-without-Bishopsgate***